

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

3. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a thin-film magnetic head material, the head material including: a plurality of rows of head-to-be sections to be thin-film magnetic heads; an inter-row cutting section provided to be a position between adjacent ones of the rows that are to be separated; and an intra-row cutting section provided to be a position between adjacent ones of the head-to-be sections in each of the rows that are to be separated; the method ~~including the steps of~~comprising:

providing a detection element to be used for detecting an amount of processing when specific processing is performed on the head material; an electrode for electrically connecting the detection element to an external device; and a conductor for electrically connecting the electrode to the detection element, wherein; ~~and~~

the detection element is not disposed in the inter-row cutting section but disposed in each of the rows; and

~~forming the electrode is not disposed in each of the rows but disposed~~ in the inter-row cutting section.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the detection element and the conductor are formed in the intra-row cutting section.